

#### IV. REMARKS

1. Claims 1 - 22 remain in the application. Claims 1, 12 and 19 have been amended. Support for the amendment may be found in the specification, for example, on page 8, lines 1-12, and page 9, lines 17-22.

2. The drawings have been amended as follows: In Figure 2 the designation "64" has been changed to --63-- and designation --48-- has been added. In Figure 3, the designation "144" has been changed to --114--. Corrected drawings are attached to this response.

3. The specification has been amended to refer to --bottom 63-- instead of "bottom 64" on page 6, line 28.

4. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-4 and 19-22 are not anticipated by Phillips (US 6,078,792).

Phillips fails to disclose or suggest a housing where the top and bottom shell are mated in a direction from the top end to the bottom end as recited in claims 1 and 19. Page 6, lines 8 - 12, in combination with Figure 1 of the present application describe how the shells are mated together. This mating operation is in contradistinction to Phillips' housing, which according to Figures 1 and 2 appears to mate in a direction perpendicular to the present invention.

Phillips also fails to disclose or suggest a microphone interface and a speaker interface, each including a gasket that allows sound penetration while preventing the entry of water and contaminants, also recited by claims 1 and 19. Applicants find no disclosure related to this feature.

At least for these reasons, Applicants submit that independent claims 1 and 19, and dependent claims 2-4 and 20-22 are not anticipated by Phillips.

5. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 5 is patentable over the combination of Phillips in view of Nothnagel et al. (US 4,397,035 "Nothnagel").

Claim 5 depends from claim 1. Nothnagel, like Phillips, fails to disclose a microphone interface and a speaker interface as recited by claim 1. Therefore the combination of Phillips and Nothnagel fails to render claim 5 obvious.

6. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 6-10 are patentable over the combination of Phillips in view of Curtis et al. (US 6,594,472 "Curtis").

Claims 6-10 depend from claim 1. Like Philips, Curtis fails to disclose or suggest microphone and speaker interfaces, each having a gasket that allows sound penetration while preventing the entry of water and contaminants. Curtis discloses a speaker gasket (item 8, Figure 2) but has not disclosure related to a microphone interface, and not disclosure related to allowing sound penetration while preventing the entry of water and contaminants. Therefore, claims 6-10 are not rendered obvious by the combination of Phillips and Curtis.

7. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 11 is patentable over the combination of Phillips and Curtis further in view of Carlson et al. (US 5,241,592 "Carlson").

Claim 11 depends from claim 1. Applicants find no disclosure in Carlson, Phillips or Curtis related to a microphone and speaker interface as claimed and therefore respectfully submit that claim 11 is patentable over the cited combination of art.

8. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 12-17 are patentable over the combination of Phillips, Nothnagel and Curtis.

The combination of Phillips, Nothnagel, and Curtis fails to disclose a microphone interface and a speaker interface, each including a gasket that allows sound penetration while preventing water and contaminants from entering, as recited in claim 12. Therefore, claim 12 and claims 13-17 are patentable over the combination of Phillips, Nothnagel, and Curtis.

9. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 18 is patentable over the combination of Phillips, Nothnagel and Curtis in view of Carlson.

Claim 18 depends from claim 12. The cited combination fails to disclose or suggest the microphone and speaker interfaces as claimed for all the reasons stated above. Therefore, claim 18 is patentable over the combination of Phillips, Nothnagel, Curtis and Carlson.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.



The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,

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